



CUBA FOR CHRIST

NOTABLE EVENTS in Cuban history:
 Discovery by Columbus October 28, 1492. Natives almost annihilated by Spaniards. First slave to the New World brought to Cuba in 1524; nearly one million, up to 1860. Total abolition of slavery in 1887. Chinese coolies introduced in 1848; about 100,000 subsequently came. An uprising against Spain in 1829; another in 1844; a great but unsuccessful revolution in 1848; another of ten years from 1868 to 1878, that cost Spain the lives of 8,000 officers, 200,000 privates and \$300,000,000. The last revolution began in 1895. Steamship "Maine" blown up in Havana harbor February 15, 1898. Weyler's atrocities shocked the civilized world. April 11, 1898, President McKinley said to Congress: "In the name of humanity, the name of civilization, in behalf of endangered American interests, which give us the right and the duty to speak and act, the war in Cuba must stop." April 22, 1898, war against Spain declared; July 1, battle at San Juan; July 3, destruction of Cervera's fleet; July 17, our flag unfurled over Santiago; January 1, 1899, last vestige of authority of Spain over Cuba vanished and guardianship by our Government began. Estimated cost of the war to the United States \$200,000,000. Cuban Republic estab-

lished May 20, 1902; hence May 20 is Cuba's national holiday, as Fourth of July is with us. First President of "Cuba Libre" elected Dec. 31, 1901, and assumed office May 20 following, the American governor and troops withdrawing.

THE COUNTRY. Cuba is 730 miles long; its greatest width, 135 miles; average width about 30 miles. Its area of 45,000 square miles is about three-fourths that of New England; nearly equal to that of Pennsylvania. Mountain ranges of Eastern Cuba have an altitude, near Santiago, of 8,600 feet, sloping sharply 18,000 feet below the water to the ocean's bed. Cuba, the fairest and most fertile of the tropical islands, is justly termed the "Pearl of the Antilles." Yellow fever, a legacy of the slave trade, has practically been eradicated by American sanitary methods.

THE PEOPLE. The population, according to census of 1907, was 2,048,980; of whom 1,224,540 were whites; 274,272 negroes; 334,695 mulattoes; 11,837 Chinese; 203,646 foreigners, of whom 185,393 were of Spanish birth. People of all classes and colors mingle in society, in business and in the churches; though there is a growing tendency to separation on racial lines. Antonio Maceo and his brother, leaders in the late war, were free mulattoes, and a large proportion of the Cuban army were negroes. Cubans are hospitable to American ideas.

ROMANISM IN CUBA. Rome ruled Cuba religiously for four hundred years. Church and State were united. Toward the close of the last century religious toleration with special restrictions was granted. The hierarchy, mostly Spaniards, took the side of tyrannical Spain in the recent revolution and so incurred the hatred of hosts of Cubans. The priests in general were indolent,

morally bad, very sordid in their exorbitant charges for baptism, for marriage and for burial. Hence, according to a late census, while 246,351 people were married, 131,787 lived together by common consent, being unable generally to pay the priestly charges for the marriage ceremony. African slaves were taught a few rudiments of the Roman Catholic faith, so that within a year after their arrival they could be baptized and become members of the church. Romanism in Cuba therefore was generally of a low type and repulsive to the progressive element struggling for independence.

OUR FIELD IN CUBA. By an amicable arrangement the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has the four western provinces, while the American Baptist Home Mission Society has the two eastern provinces of Camaguey and Oriente. These eastern provinces, with an area of 23,000 square miles, are a little more than one-half of the island; their population, about 500,000, being one-fourth of the whole. In Camaguey about four-fifths are white and one-fifth colored; in Oriente about three-fifths white and two-fifths colored.

The population of the chief cities, according to the census of 1899, was as follows: Camaguey, 53,140; Santiago, 43,090; Holguin, 6,045; Manzanillo, 14,464; Guantanamo, 7,137; Baracoa, 4,937; Nuevitas, 4,228; Gibara, 6,841; Bayamo, 3,022. The great iron mines of Eastern Cuba have attracted American capital, and important railways have been built. This region has a bright future.

OUR MISSIONS. The Society's first appointee was Rev. H. R. Moseley, D. D., as General Missionary, with headquarters at Santiago, in January, 1899. He had been a missionary in Mexico and acquired com-

mand of the Spanish language, and for thirteen years has handled the entire work, including the erection of church edifices, with rare ability. His residence is at El Cristo, Province of Oriente, twelve miles from Santiago, and 1,000 feet above sea level in the beautiful hill region.

Here, in 1907, the Society established a splendid school, with 173 pupils the first year, which has given strength and permanence to its missionary work. This enterprise is almost self-supporting. In Santiago, Camaguey, Guantanamo, Bayamo and Manzanillo—as in other strategic points—the work is well organized. In a remarkable way God has given us pre-emption of many places, and pre-eminence in the number and efficiency of missionaries and in substantial results in Eastern Cuba.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. From nothing in 1898, the work has grown until the reports for 1911-12 show a total of 54 churches; 73 out-stations; 2,701 members; 38 chapels and 8 pastors' residences; 56 Sunday schools with 2,511 members; and 236 baptisms during the last year. The value of church buildings and parsonages is \$112,000, and of school buildings and equipment \$51,000—a total of \$163,000. During the nine years more than 3,500 converts have been baptized; Christian homes have been established, and native workers have been called of God to preach, and have been trained for His service. A monthly paper, "El Mensajero," is published at Camaguey. An Association gathers all the workers together annually. The churches are undertaking to pay all incidental expenses and a percentage of the pastors' salaries, with the goal of self-support kept in view. A profound impression has been made upon the people by our missions. The Association of our Cuban churches has recently voted to contribute

to the support of a missionary in the adjacent island of Santo Domingo.

AN OPEN DOOR. Dr. Moseley says: "In Mexico and other Catholic countries everything is against us. In Cuba the tide is in our favor. There is absolutely no fanaticism manifested toward us. All classes of people in crowds attend our services. To-day is the day of opportunity. Rome is alert and at work to win back to her fold this people who have been alienated, and she will succeed if Protestant America is blind to this matchless opportunity that God in His providence has given her." The people freely buy and read copies of the Bible—a rare thing in Catholic lands.

OUR DUTY AND PRIVILEGE. Dr. Morehouse says: "The measure of our duty is determined by the deplorable religious condition of the people; by their proximity to us; by their accessibility and readiness to receive the Gospel; by their particularly friendly disposition toward this country. As it was our privilege in the interest of humanity to help in Cuba's emancipation from the Spanish yoke and pilot her on her new career, so it should be esteemed a privilege by the Christian people of this country to crown that work by the religious emancipation of Cuba, which then indeed shall be Cuba Libre. Shall the 'Pearl of the Antilles' become, through our efforts, a pearl in the diadem of our Lord?"

THE FUTURE of Cuba depends largely upon the results of the missionary efforts now under way. Christianity alone can fit the Cubans for good government and a new order of civilization. The Cuban people in a measure realize this and welcome the missionaries most cordially.

MISSIONARIES AND TEACHERS.

The names and addresses of our American ordained ministers are as follows:

MISSIONARIES

REV. H. R. MOSELEY, D. D.,	El Cristo, Province Oriente
REV. A. B. HOWELL	Guantanamo
REV. JUAN MCCARTHY	Baracoa
REV. F. J. PETERS	Bayamo
REV. A. L. STORY	Santiago
REV. E. W. WATSON	Victoria de las Tunas
REV. D. A. WILSON	Camaguey

TEACHERS IN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AT EL CRISTO

REV. ROBERT ROUTLEDGE, Principal
SCOTT COTTON
MRS. SCOTT COTTON
MRS. H. R. MOSELEY
MISS ALICIA MCCARTHY
MISS EVA DORSETT



OUR SCHOOL AT EL CRISTO

THE AMERICAN BAPTIST
HOME MISSION SOCIETY

23 East 26th Street

New York